

Date: October 23, 2000

To: Betty Beverly
AgeAdvantAge, Inc.

From: James Schmidlkofer
Bureau of Aging and Long Term Care Resources

Re: Appearance of Political Candidates at Elderly Nutrition Sites

It is my understanding that an aging unit director has asked about the policies that cover appearances by political candidates at elderly service settings. Our policies are fairly straightforward.

First, candidates for elected office may be allowed to speak at elderly service settings. Such appearances can benefit both the candidates and the program participants. However, program operators are not required to arrange such events.

Second, if a candidate is allowed to speak at an elderly service setting all other candidates for that office must be contacted and provided an equal opportunity to present his or her candidacy.

Third, it must be made clear to the program participants that the appearance of any candidate does not signify his or her endorsement by the elderly program.

Fourth, any presentation must be arranged so that program participants are not forced to attend in order to receive the elderly service.

If you have any questions, please give me a call at 266-5364.